

Church News

(Continued from page 17.)

Foreign Missions: Rev. J. E. Purcell, Jr., Rev. J. O. Mann and Rev. J. K. Parker, Elders R. G. Vance, J. W. Sillings and George S. Harnsberger.

Sabbath Schools: Rev. M. R. Turnbull and Elder J. A. McKay.

Presbyterial sermon to be preached next fall meeting by Rev. William Denham, with Rev. T. H. Daffin as alternate, on the subject, "The Atonement—the Inspiration for Service." 2 Cor. 14:15.

Fall meeting at Warm Springs, Va., September 12, 1916, at 3 P. M.

Wm. C. White,
Stated Clerk.

THE GUERRANT INLAND MISSION.

By S. L. Morris.

Twenty years ago Dr. E. O. Guerrant organized the "Soul Winners' Society" for giving the gospel to the neglected and destitute sections of the mountains, which he named the "American Inland Mission." He "built fifty-six churches, schools and mission houses, including three colleges and an orphan asylum," and accumulated mission property valued at \$50,000. The work cost annually \$14,000, and was supported by voluntary offerings of friends all over the country, whom God raised up.

Advancing years and failing health compelled Dr. Guerrant to come with these missions to the Committee of Home Missions for assistance in financing the work. He continued to solicit funds for the work and assisted in superintending it. His sudden death on April 26th has greatly embarrassed the committee in caring for these missions and deprives us of one of the greatest evangelists in the employ of the Executive Committee.

The General Assembly in session at Orlando, Fla., desiring to perpetuate his work as a memorial to its worthy founder has named all this work "The Guerrant Inland Mission." It is hoped that it will be carried on without interruption by the aid of its generous supporters. Rev. J. W. Tyler, D. D., Danville, Ky., has been elected superintendent and treasurer, as Dr. Guerrant's successor. All applications for positions as teachers or evangelists, and all funds for its support should be sent to Dr. Tyler, Danville, Ky., or to A. N. Sharp, treasurer, Atlanta, Ga.

Will not the friends of Dr. Guerrant and of this mountain work rally to its support so there may be no interruption or embarrassment, but instead an enlargement of "The Guerrant Inland Mission" for meeting the needs of these mountain people. God will reward the self-denials of its generous supporters. Will you not take part with other friends in the work? "God buries His workmen, but carries on His work."

General News

OUR MANY LANGUAGES.

It is sometimes said that the United States is a homogenous country, and that it has a common language. This was largely true a generation or more ago, but it cannot be said any longer. It is safe to say that more languages are spoken in the United States and its colonies today than in any country of the world. Our own Home Mission Committee through its representatives is preaching the gospel in the South in fourteen different languages. The American Bible Society last year distributed the Scriptures in ninety-four languages spoken in this country. But when we go to our Philippine possessions it looks like

Babel must have been situated there. We are told that the people of those Islands speak 800 languages and dialects.

In this country in most cases the children of foreigners, if they remain here, learn the English language. One of the great blessings of the public schools is that all who attend are taught the one language.

In the Philippines the government has 5,000 teachers teaching 500,000 children, every one of whom is studying English. In this way it will not be many years before the people of those islands will all be able to speak the same language. There will then be intercommunication between all parts of the islands, which is now entirely impossible. Nothing save the gospel will do more towards enlightening and elevating the people. People who are limited in their intercourse with others are likely to be narrow and prejudiced. As they can not exchange thoughts with one another. When there can be mutual intercourse, there is likely to be mutual growth.

The diversity of language makes it difficult to preach the gospel to all these peoples. Much is being done to overcome the difficulties, but there still remains much to be done.

This great diversity of language in our country shows from how many countries people have come to us. While many come to stay and become citizens of the United States, many remain only for a short time and return to their native lands.

What a wonderful opportunity is presented to us for doing foreign mission work in the simplest, easiest and most economical way. Give the foreigner the gospel here, and, when he returns to his native land, he will carry Christ with him and become a missionary of the cross.

NEW YORK'S HOMELESS CHILDREN.

Quite a stir has been made in New York over the effort being made by the mayor of the city to have inspections made of the institutions to which the city has committed the care of 22,000 of its homeless children. On this subject the "Literary Digest" says:

Mayor Mitchell and His Church.

By "Ripping Things Wide Open" in the complicated and bitter dispute that has developed between New York's Commissioner of Charities and a certain group of Catholic priests, Mayor Mitchell, it is thought by editorial commentators, has brought to the front again the "greater question" that is almost obscured by the more sensational features of the quarrel. This is the question of the treatment of the children in the New York charitable institutions. "For two years and a half," says the mayor, "I have been endeavoring to secure humane treatment and proper care for the 22,000 homeless and dependent children committed as city wards to private charitable institutions. I have been endeavoring to secure proper administration of the \$5,000,000 of public funds annually disbursed to these institutions for the care of the city's wards." "This," notes the New York Times, "is the heart and substance of the matter out of which the wire-tapping controversy has grown." This controversy has already resulted in the indictment by a Brooklyn grand jury of Charities Commissioner John A. Kingsbury and his special counsel, William H. Hotchkiss, for "wire tapping," and a promise by the mayor of criminal action against certain Catholic priests and non-Catholic laymen whom he accuses of perjury, criminal libel, conspiracy to utter a criminal libel, and conspiracy to pervert and obstruct justice and prevent the due administration of the law. Mayor

Mitchell is himself a Catholic. While the New York Evening Post commends his "high political courage" in this matter, the New York Catholic Freeman's Journal accuses him of "running amuck" and of encouraging "a campaign of vilification," and the Brooklyn Citizen relegates his charges to "the category of dementia in literature." The New York Globe reminds us that the issue is not a religious issue, and The Times regrets that there should be any question of the Church in this controversy. Mayor Mitchell himself, in his dramatic statement before the Thompson Legislative Committee, made it clear that—

"It is not the Catholic Church which has so conspired to pervert justice and obstruct or control government, but a small group within the Church co-operating with a few non-Catholic laymen. It is this group I charge with conspiracy.

"This group I am convinced is not representative of the Church or of the great body of right-thinking, honest Catholics of this city. Jews, Protestants, and Catholics alike will think as I do on this question when the disguises are removed from the naked truth, and the issue which is beneath it all, the decent care of the 22,000 children for whom the city of New York must act as father and mother, becomes clear to all."

He further stated that the police had obtained evidence substantiating the charges of conspiracy by the "supervision" of certain telephones, called "wire-tapping," among them that of father Farrell, and he went on to say:

"Now, gentlemen of the committee, I stated that there was a conspiracy, in my opinion, on the part of certain clergymen and laymen to obstruct the due administration of the laws, to interfere with government—in short, religious interference with the government of this city, which is a thing, I think, contrary to the genius of American institutions, because if there is one thing that is a fundamental of ours in American life, it is that, just as we declare that government shall not lay its hand upon the altar of the Church, so the Church shall not lay its hand upon the altar of government.

"And let me say that while I am mayor, it will not."

Earlier in his statement the mayor reviewed the incidents leading up to the present trouble, telling how his administration had authorized an investigation of private charitable institutions in New York, and how Commissioner Kingsbury had safeguarded the fairness of this investigation by appointing on the investigating committee representatives of the three principal religious denominations of the city supporting private institutions of this kind. Thus the Jews, the Catholics, and the Protestants each had a representative on the committee. Continuing the story, the mayor said:

"These men, as a committee, undertook to make an examination of these institutions. What they have found has been pretty thoroughly spread upon the record made before Commissioner Strong, the Governor's commissioner sitting under the Moreland Act.

"That in some of these institutions of all denominations children were found with their hair knotted with lice, their scalps covered with itching sores, their bodies covered with filthy clothes that had not been changed for three weeks, their bodies underfed and undernourished, deprived of any reasonable opportunity for recreation, compelled to sit on backless wooden benches, some of them compelled to bathe, ten, fifteen, or twenty-five standing on a trough of six inches of water, many of them

compelled to use the same towel after bathing, and other kindred conditions.

"These conditions are not illustrative of all the private charitable institutions of the city, nor must it be understood to be intended to imply that they are. They are illustrative only of a certain number, but they were found in that certain number from the time this investigation got under way down to the present time and culminating in the indictments found this morning.

"There has been a persistent effort to discredit the Commissioner of Charities, to pull him off the investigation that he was making of these private charitable institutions, to malign him, to slander him, to lie about him at every opportunity, to intimidate him, and to intimidate the mayor in order that immunity from investigation and from censure should be secured for these private charitable institutions.

"The prime movers in that effort have been men like Mr. Hebbard, father Farrell, this man Potter—this ex-minister and discredited city employee—and a certain number of other Catholic clergymen who saw fit to associate themselves with these men in this attempt."

The mayor bases his charge of criminal libel on certain pamphlets, 700,000 of which were distributed with the approval of Mgr. John J. Dunn, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of New York. In a statement read before the Thompson Committee Mgr. Dunn denied antagonism toward Mayor Mitchell's administration on the part of any Church authorities, and accused the mayor of being hand in glove with "interests that threaten the existence of child caring institutions, Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish." He went on to say, in part:

"It is amusing to those who know Mr. Mitchell's church affiliations to read his reference to his coreligionists. One would rather think that he has not been correctly quoted. He does, however, show a religious touch which is almost pathetic when he refers to the 'altar of the Church,' and draws therefrom a valuable lesson. He pledges himself to keep the Church from laying its hands on the altar of the government, though he has been for some time past adroitly making a counter-attack, and was meeting with a measure of success. Perhaps he would have succeeded fully in his holy purpose of taking God out of the hearts of the little ones in our institutions had he worked with a little less speed and ardor, but that is another story.

"The Catholic Church is not on trial, though Mr. Mitchell is trying very de-

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